

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a user application program executed in a client computer, comprising the ~~step~~ steps of:

identifying data to which the user application program refers;

grouping data to which the user application program refers for a predetermined period of time into a priority file corresponding to at least one arbitrary data block, based on data that have been required by the user application program upon previous execution of the user application program, and storing the priority file in a predetermined server;

if the user application program does not include a pointer to a file streaming readout function, replacing an existing pointer to a readout function with a substitute pointer to the file streaming readout function, wherein the file streaming readout function carries out the following steps:

receiving a file readout request for ~~a file~~ the arbitrary data block from the user application program;

identifying the priority file corresponding to the arbitrary data block by referring to an index storage means containing data offsets for the data blocks, sizes of the data blocks and priority file identifiers associated with the data blocks in the index storage means;

determining whether the priority file is stored in the client computer;

if it is determined that the priority file has been stored in the client computer, forwarding data of the file to the user application program; and

if it is determined that the file has not yet been stored in the client computer, receiving some of the data of the file from ~~a~~ said predetermined server with the priority file stored therein and storing the some of the data in the client computer and forwarding the received data to the

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user application program, the predetermined server being connected to the client computer through a network.

2-4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step for receiving the data of the file from the predetermined server with the file stored therein and caching the received data in the client computer.

6. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
 identifying a second client computer with the file stored therein; and
 receiving the file from the identified second client computer and transferring the received file to the user application program.

7. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of:
 while the file readout request is not received from the user application program, receiving data expected to be required by the user application program from a second client computer with the data stored therein and storing the received data.

8. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein determination on the data expected to be required by the user application program is made based on data that have been required by the user application program upon previous execution of the user application program.

9-18 (Canceled)